

to with whom I trust to renew  
my agreeable intercourse before  
very long. I write a line to the  
Prof. so send no message to him,  
but beg you to accept the sincerest  
regards of yr very Aff<sup>d</sup>

J. Carey

Mrs Gray.

New York, 3<sup>d</sup> Dec. 1851.

My dear Mr. Gray,

This morning brought me your  
kind note, & kinder invitation, &  
I regret that I cannot, at the  
moment, say when I may hope to  
see you. About three weeks since,  
I undertook to direct the planting  
of a shrubbery for an esteemed  
friend, on Staten Island, & the  
frost of last week has arrested  
our operations when we had  
only about two days work re-  
maining to be done. As the  
shrubs & trees are all ordered  
from a Nursery (at Newark) we  
wait only for a warm rain  
to enable us to finish our job,  
& altho', of course, there is no

sort of certainty as to when this may be expected, I feel compelled, in kindness to my friends, who count upon my superintendance, to be upon the spot, ready to take advantage of the first suitable weather.

I have just been at Mr. Farrey's & have explained to Jane the uncertainty of my movements, & have greatly regretted that I cannot be her escort, which would have afforded me unusual pleasure. She is only just recovering from her late attack, but talks of leaving N.Y. at the close of the present, or commencement of the ensuing week. However, Mr. F. (who, I regret to say, appears but feeble) is writing to Eliza to-day, & she may possibly speak with certainty as to when Jane will be with you. I can assure you

that I wish much to see you, & should be very pleased to join your "merry circle in the parlour". As soon as my little job is accomplished, I will write to you again, & learn when it may be convenient to you that I should come on.

I do not wonder that your correspondence has been neglected since your return, & so far as I am concerned - much as your letters always gratify me - I would rather forego the salutary fiction, for a time, than to add ought to your epistolary labours. Nevertheless, in justice to myself, I must demur to your Book-keeping, for, assuredly, "Mr. Carey does (not) owe Dr. Gray" since I wrote to the worthy Professor last.

I am very sorry to hear of Eliza's illness, & beg you to say all that is kind to her, on my behalf - also to the several members of your family whom I have the happiness to know,